

that it is impossible to even produce it efficiently, cost effectively. Those are the kinds of things that I think very certainly need to be considered.

We have an act before us now. The chairman of the Energy Committee, Senator MURKOWSKI from Alaska, has put together a bill. I happen to be a cosponsor. It is a large bill that has to do with many of the things that are involved. I suspect there will be some changes in it before it is finally passed. I think it is a start, and I am very proud of what has been done there. It talks about protecting energy supplies, security for increasing efficiency, and the certification of pipelines. It has to do with technological research, advancing clean coal technology, alternative fuels, renewables, and conservation measures, just to name a few. It has to do with all kinds of things that would encourage us to have a clean, useful economic energy program in the United States to meet our needs.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALBARD). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the time until 11:25 a.m. shall be under the control of the Senators from Minnesota. The Senator from Minnesota is recognized.

Mr. WELLSTONE. I thank the Chair. (The remarks of Mr. WELLSTONE and Mr. DAYTON pertaining to the introduction of S. 422 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENSIGN). The Senator from New York is recognized.

Under the previous order, the time until 11:40 a.m. is in morning business under the control of the Senator from New York.

(The remarks of Mrs. CLINTON pertaining to the introduction of S. 426, S. 427, S. 428, S. 429, S. 430, S. 431, and S. 432 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 420

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am very pleased to see the Presiding Officer in the chair this morning. I ask unani-

mous consent that at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 5, the Senate begin consideration of an original bill reported out of the Judiciary Committee yesterday, S. 420, regarding bankruptcy reform. I further ask unanimous consent that consideration on Monday be for debate only, to be equally divided in the usual form.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, I am wondering if the leader would consider changing the 1 p.m. time to 1:30 or 2.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I see no problem with that. I amend my request to indicate that we would begin at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 5 instead of 1 p.m.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Reserving the right to object, and I shall not, I first thank Senator REID and the majority leader for their good-faith discussion. I say to the majority leader, it is my understanding—and it is his word, which, to me, is enough—that the agreement we have, which is fine with me now, is that we will get started early next week, Monday afternoon, and that the majority leader is absolutely committed and intends for their to be full debate; Senators can bring substantive amendments out, and we will have a debate. That is what this agreement is about. We will move forward and we will have plenty of opportunity for important debate on this piece of legislation.

Am I correct that we will have the right to introduce amendments and have votes?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, absolutely. I know the Senator from Minnesota has more than one amendment he would want to have debated and considered and voted on. I presume there will be other Senators who may have amendments they would like to offer. I hope we can set reasonable time agreements so that at some point we will get a vote on the amendments and that we will move through the amendments and not have just one or two amendments tie up a day or days. Certainly, I believe both sides will act in good faith and will be reasonable, and we want a full debate and votes. We intend to proceed in that way.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I do not object. I thank the majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that all sponsors of S. 220 be considered as cosponsors on S. 420.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, next week we are going to get into some heavy lifting. This is a very important bill. There are a lot of amendments. For those in the press and others who have been wondering why we haven't been doing things, it is difficult early in the session to get to substantive matters. This is going to be some real substantive legislation. My friend from Minnesota has indicated he has a num-

ber of amendments to offer and others do. I look forward to some long days and a lot of good work next week on this bill.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, let me respond in this way: At the beginning of a new session, particularly with a new administration, you do have to have time to get amendments or bills produced. They have to work through committees. The committees have to get organized before they can begin reporting bills, plus a lot of time is spent on confirmations. I am glad we are ready now, though, to go to serious legislation.

Our colleagues should be on notice that the days probably will be long next week, and we will be having votes throughout the day Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, possibly even Friday. I can't project right now what will be required in that area. We may need to even go late in order to give Senators time to make their case on amendments and have votes. It is time to do that. I appreciate the help we have had in getting this bill ready for the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. Leader, I am wondering if I could also ask—we have had a number of inquiries from Democratic Senators—what is the rest of the day going to be like?

Mr. LOTT. Let me respond to that, Mr. President, in that I know we have some requests from Senators who would like to make remarks. We are still looking to see if there are additional nominations that might be cleared either by voice vote or recorded votes. We should have a fix on that within the next couple hours. We will announce that. It is not expected that we would have votes into the night or tomorrow. Whatever we are going to do, we will do within a reasonable hour today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the time until 12:30 p.m. shall be under the control of the Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I am not using that full 30 minutes, so if anyone else wishes the floor, they should come down at this time.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate an important point in our history and that is the 165th anniversary of March 2, 1836, commonly known as Texas Independence Day.

Each year, I look forward to March 2. This is a special day for Texans, a day

that fills our hearts with pride. On March 2, 165 years ago, a solemn convention of 54 men, including my great, great grandfather Charles S. Taylor, met in the small settlement of Washington-on-the-Brazos. There they signed the Texas Declaration of Independence. The declaration stated:

We, therefore . . . do hereby resolve and declare . . . that the people of Texas do now constitute a free, sovereign and independent republic.

At the time, Texas was a remote territory of Mexico. It was hospitable only to the bravest and most determined of settlers. After declaring our independence, the founding delegates quickly wrote a constitution and organized an interim government for the newborn republic.

As was the case when the American Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, our declaration only pointed the way toward a goal. It would exact a price of enormous effort and great sacrifice. My great, great grandfather was there, signing the Texas Declaration of Independence. As most of the delegates did, he went on eventually to fight in the Battle of San Jacinto, and Texas would finally become an independent nation.

He didn't know it at the time, but all four of his children who had been left back at home in Nacogdoches died trying to escape from the Mexican troops who they feared were coming after them.

This was known as the "runaway scrape," when the women and children in the Nacogdoches Territory fled toward Louisiana because they feared Indians and Mexican troops, and they were trying to go to safety. But the rigors of the trip were very harsh and all four of their children were dead when he returned.

Fortunately, he and his wife, my great, great grandmother, had nine more children. But it is just an example of the sacrifices that were made by people who were willing to fight for something they believed in. That, of course, was freedom.

While the convention sat in Washington-on-the-Brazos, 6,000 Mexican troops held the Alamo under siege, challenging this newly created republic.

Several days earlier, from the Alamo, Col. William Barrett Travis sent his immortal letter to the people of Texas and to all Americans. He knew the Mexican Army was approaching and he knew that he had only a very few men to help defend the San Antonio fortress. Colonel Travis wrote:

Fellow Citizens and Compatriots: I am besieged with a thousand or more of the Mexicans under Santa Anna. I have sustained a continual Bombardment and cannonade for 24 hours and have not lost a man. The enemy has demanded surrender at discretion, otherwise, the garrison is to be put to the sword, if the fort is taken. I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, and our flag still waves proudly over the wall. I shall never surrender or retreat. Then I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism, of every-

thing dear to the American character, to come to our aid with all dispatch. The enemy is receiving reinforcements daily and will no doubt increase to three or four thousand in four or five days. If this call is neglected I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible and die like a soldier who never forgets what is due his honor and that of his country—Victory or Death.—William Barrett Travis, Lt. Col. Commander.

What Texan or otherwise can fail to be stirred by Colonel Travis' resolve. In fact, Colonel Travis' dire prediction came true, 4,000 to 5,000 Mexican troops did lay siege to the Alamo.

In the battle that followed, 184 brave men died in a heroic but vain attempt to fend off Santa Anna's overwhelming army. The Alamo, as we all in Texas know, was crucial to Texas independence because those heroes at the Alamo held out for so long that Santa Anna's forces were battered and diminished. Gen. Sam Houston gained the time he needed to devise a strategy to defeat Santa Anna at the Battle of San Jacinto just a month or so later on April 21, 1836. The Lone Star was visible on the horizon at last.

Each year on March 2, there is a ceremony at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park where there is a replica of the modest cabin where the 54 patriots pledged their lives, honor, and treasure for freedom.

Every year, in, on, or around March 2, I read Colonel Travis' letter to my colleagues in the Senate. This is a tradition started by the late Senator John Tower, my friend. This is a reminder to all of us of the pride that Texans share in our history and in being the only State that came into the Union as a republic.

I am pleased to continue the tradition started by my friend, Senator Tower, because we do have a unique heritage in Texas where we fought for our freedom. Having grown up in the family and hearing the stories of my great-great-grandfather and my great-great-grandmother and her heroism as well as his, it was something that was ingrained in us: fighting for something we believe is right and for maintaining the vigil for freedom throughout our country to this day.

It is very important we remember the people who sacrificed, the 184 men who died at the Alamo, the men who died at Goliad later that same month, and those 54 men who met at Washington-on-the-Brazos putting their lives in danger as well by signing that declaration of independence and becoming traitors for a cause. Their deaths gave birth to Texas independence, and we became a nation, a status we enjoyed for 10 years before we entered the United States as a State.

I might add, we entered the Union by a 1-vote margin in the House and a 1-vote margin in the Senate. In fact, we were originally going to come into the United States through a treaty, but the two-thirds vote could not be received in the Senate for ratification. Therefore, President John Tyler, for whom one of our great cities in Texas is

named, introduced the resolution into Congress. He said: No, we will pass a law to invite Texas to become a part of our Union. And that law passed by 1 vote in the House and 1 vote in the Senate.

I am very pleased Senator Tyler thought enough of us to ask us to join the Union and fight for our ability to do that. We have contributed a lot to the United States, and we are very proud of our heritage and the history of fighting for freedom that has been passed through the generations in my family, as well as in the families of so many Texans.

I am pleased to commemorate our great heritage and the history of Texas—Texas the republic and Texas the State.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUNNING). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce some legislation which I send to the desk.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. ALLARD. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. ALLARD pertaining to the introduction of S. 425 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be allowed to proceed for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. NELSON of Florida pertaining to the introduction of legislation are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the period for